



LAND O LAKES Feed

May 2, 2003

Kenneth R Payne, Chief
Marketing Programs Branch
Room 2638-S
Livestock and Seed Program
Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA
STOP-0251
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250-0251

VIA FACSIMILE 202-720-1125

RE: Docket No. LS-02-15

Dear Mr. Payne:

I am writing in response to the Pork Promotion, Research, and Consumer Information Program: Submission of Information proposed rule requiring submission to the Agricultural Marketing Service names, addresses and other information deemed necessary to identify persons from whom assessments are collected.

I believe the cost estimates for our system, a semi-electronic system, would average 4 hours minimum to complete each month at a cost of approximately \$35 per hour. These efforts take a large chunk of time from a small department. The entity being required to provide the information should be able to recoup any costs by deducting such costs directly from the check-off fee being submitted.

Another concern is being able to collect data and return it to the Pork Producers or whomever we will be required to provide information for in a timely manner. Currently, if the Pork Producers do not have the check postmarked by the 15th of the month following the month check off was withheld, there is a penalty. I believe that submitters should have 30 days to submit their check/information instead of the current 15 days.

An alternative to lengthy, time-consuming reports is to have each producer submit their check off directly to the Pork Producers.

Sincerely,

Patty Bennett
Pig Sourcing Team
Land O' Lakes Farmland Feed